

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 SP-02 AID-05 NSC-05 CIEP-01

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FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9621

USDA WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAGR, OVIP (CAMPBELL, J. PHIL)

SUBJECT: DISCUSSIONS OF UNDER-SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE CAMPBELL

REF: SOFIA 0978

1. ON MAY 21 UNDER-SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE CAMPBELL HAD OFFICIAL DISCUSSIONS WITH FIRST DEPUTY MINISTER TONEV OF MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND WITH FIRST DEPUTY MINISTER LUKANOV OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE. DURING BOTH TALKS OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXPANDED TRADE, EXCHANGE OF SCIENTIFIC TECHNOLOGY AND ECONOMIC INFORMATION IN THE AGRICULTURAL FIELD WERE DISCUSSED. MR. CAMPBELL INFORMED BOTH DEPUTY MINISTERS THAT THE USG IS PREPARED TO EXPLORE AREAS OF POSSIBLE COOPERATION AND MUTUAL INTEREST WITH THE AIM OF COMING TO SOME FORMAL AGREEMENT IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE FIRST STEP BE MEETINGS OF SPECIALISTS WHICH WILL DETERMINE AREAS OF INTEREST. MR. CAMPBELL WAS VERY CAREFUL TO EXPLAIN THE FIRST

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MEETINGS WOULD BE EXPLORATORY BUT FOR OUR PART WE WERE

LOOKING FORWARD TO REACHING SOME AGREEMENT WITH BULGARIA LIKE WE HAD WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND POLAND (USDA/FAS/EUR OFFICER BROWN PROMISED TO PROVIDE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE WITH THESE AGREEMENTS). HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT WE HAD RECEIVED FROM BULGARIAN GOVERNMENT A DRAFT AGREEMENT WHICH CAN ALSO BE EXAMINED BY EXPERTS IN DETERMINING AREAS OF INTEREST (TONEV INFORMED MR. CAMPBELL THAT BASIS OF THEIR DRAFT AGREEMENT WAS BULGARIAN-ITALIAN AND BULGARIAN-FRENCH AGREEMENTS). AT BOTH MEETINGS MR. BROWN WAS CAREFUL TO EXPLAIN TO THE BULGARIANS THAT OUR MAJOR INTEREST IS AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC INFORMATION ON WHICH WORLD COMMODITY AVAILABILITIES CAN BE ASSESSED.

2. BOTH TONEV AND LUKANOV WELCOMED CAMPBELL'S SUGGESTION AND AGREED THAT EXPERTS SHOULD EXAMINE INTERESTS OF BOTH COUNTRIES AND AFTER THAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED, WE CAN LOOK FORWARD TO AN AGREEMENT IN FIELD OF AGRICULTURE. THE BULGARIAN INTEREST, OF COURSE, IS IN ACQUIRING SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ASSISTANCE.

3. AS USUAL BULGARIANS WERE GRACIOUS HOSTS AND ATMOSPHERE DURING MEETINGS WAS VERY CORDIAL AND FORTHCOMING.
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